

## CLAIMS

1. A flame retardant  
which comprises a polymer comprising silicon, boron and  
5 oxygen, having a skeleton substantially formed by a  
silicon-oxygen bond and a boron-oxygen bond and having an  
aromatic ring within the molecule.
2. The flame retardant according to Claim 1,  
10 wherein the skeleton of said polymer substantially  
comprise an Si-O-Si bond, an Si-O-B bond and a B-O-B bond  
and the aromatic ring within the molecule is directly  
bonded to a silicon atom.
3. The flame retardant according to Claim 1 or 2,  
15 wherein said polymer is a three-dimensionally  
crosslinking polymer containing, in the skeleton thereof, an  
 $\text{SiRO}_{3/2}$  unit and a  $\text{BO}_{3/2}$  unit,  
in which R represents a univalent substituent capable of  
20 being bonded to a silicon atom and the plurality of R groups  
may be the same or different and at least one of the plurality  
of R groups is a univalent organic group having an aromatic ring.
4. The flame retardant according to Claim 3,  
25 wherein said polymer contains, in the skeleton thereof,  
an  $\text{SiR}_3\text{O}_{1/2}$  unit,  
in which R represents a univalent substituent capable of  
being bonded to a silicon atom and the plurality of R groups  
may be the same or different and at least one of the plurality  
30 of R groups within the polymer is a univalent organic group  
having an aromatic ring.
5. The flame retardant according to Claim 1 or 2,  
wherein said polymer is a three-dimensionally  
35 crosslinking polymer containing, in the skeleton thereof, an

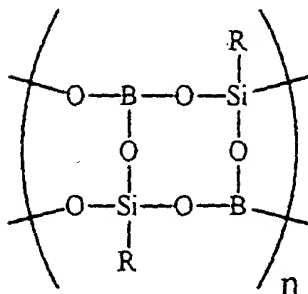
$\text{SiR}_3\text{O}_{1/2}$  unit and a  $\text{BO}_{3/2}$  unit,

- in which R represents a univalent substituent capable of being bonded to a silicon atom and the plurality of R groups may be the same or different and at least one of the plurality of R groups within the polymer is a univalent organic group having an aromatic ring.

6. The flame retardant according to Claim 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5,  
 10 wherein said polymer contains no crosslinking substituent within the molecule

- or, when it contains a crosslinking substituent within the molecule, the ratio of a crosslinking substituent and a noncrosslinking substituent (crosslinking  
 15 substituent/noncrosslinking substituent) ratio among the substituents on silicon atoms and boron atoms in the polymer is less than 1/4.

7. The flame retardant according to Claim 1, 2, 3, 4,  
 20 5 or 6,  
 wherein said polymer has the following structure within the molecule:



- 25 in which R represents a univalent substituent capable of being bonded to a silicon atom and the plurality of R groups may be the same or different and at least one of the plurality of R groups is a univalent organic group having an aromatic ring and

35 wherein the resin comprises at least one resin selected

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